

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3-27 are pending in the application. The above amendments were made in view of the Board's Decision on Appeal reversing the rejection of claims 3, 8, 20 and 27, for the sole purpose of expediting prosecution and placing the application in condition for allowance. By the above amendment, claim 3 was canceled and incorporated into claim 1, claim 8 was rewritten in independent form to include the limitation of claim 1, claims 17 and 20 were canceled without prejudice and incorporated into claim 16, and claims 24 and 27 were canceled without prejudice and incorporated into claim 23.

As such, independent claims 1, 8, 16 and 23 are patentable over the cited art of record by virtue of the Board's Decision. Further, all remaining claims depending from claims 1, 16 and 23 are patentable over the cited art of record at least by virtue of their dependence from allowable claims 1, 16 or 23.

Respectfully submitted,



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